NASA

A Global Partnership for ALL Mankind

NASAfacts

Facilities around the world support the operation and management of the International Space Station

The International Space Station is the result of an impressive scientific collaboration among five space agencies representing 15 countries.

The successful implementation, assembly and operation of the station promotes continuous research for peaceful purposes and economic growth, future space exploration partnerships and positive diplomatic relations.

Since the breakdown of Russian-American barriers with the success of the Apollo-Soyuz Test Project, a competitive spirit has been replaced with cooperative goals. The training leading up to past missions has exposed the crews to each other's nations, helping to break down cultural and language barriers. Not only have cultural boundaries been crossed, but through the efforts to create and sustain the station, new information is constantly exchanged between nation's space agencies. This process has allowed open participation from a global standpoint, with international flight crews, launch, operations, training, engineering, management, communications networks and scientific research

Space Station Facts

International Space Station Size & Mass

Module Length: 167.3 feet (51 meters)

Truss Length: 357.5 feet (109 meters)

Solar Array Length: 239.4 feet (73 meters)

Mass: 861,804 lbs (390,908 kilograms)

Habitable Volume: 13,696 cubic feet (388 cubic meters)

Pressurized Volume: 32,333 cubic feet (916 cubic meters)

Power Generation: 8 solar arrays = 84 kilowatts

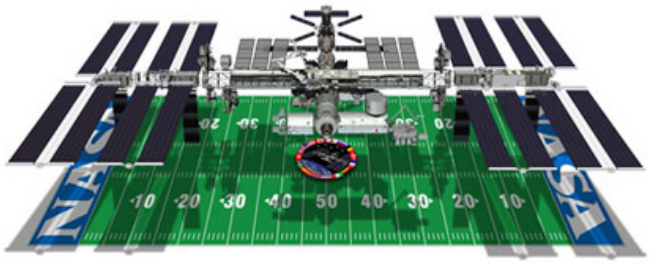
Lines of Computer Code: approximately 2.3 million

communities contributing to the orbiting laboratory's overall success.

This research outpost in space includes contributions from the United States, Canada, Japan, Russia, Belgium, Denmark, France, Germany, Italy, the Netherlands, Norway, Spain, Sweden, Switzerland and the United Kingdom. More than 100,000 people in space agencies and contractor facilities in 37 U.S. states and throughout the world are involved in this endeavor.

Operating the space station is even more complicated than other spaceflight endeavors because it is an international program. Each partner has the primary responsibility to manage and run the hardware it provides, but in cooperation with the rest of the partner agencies.

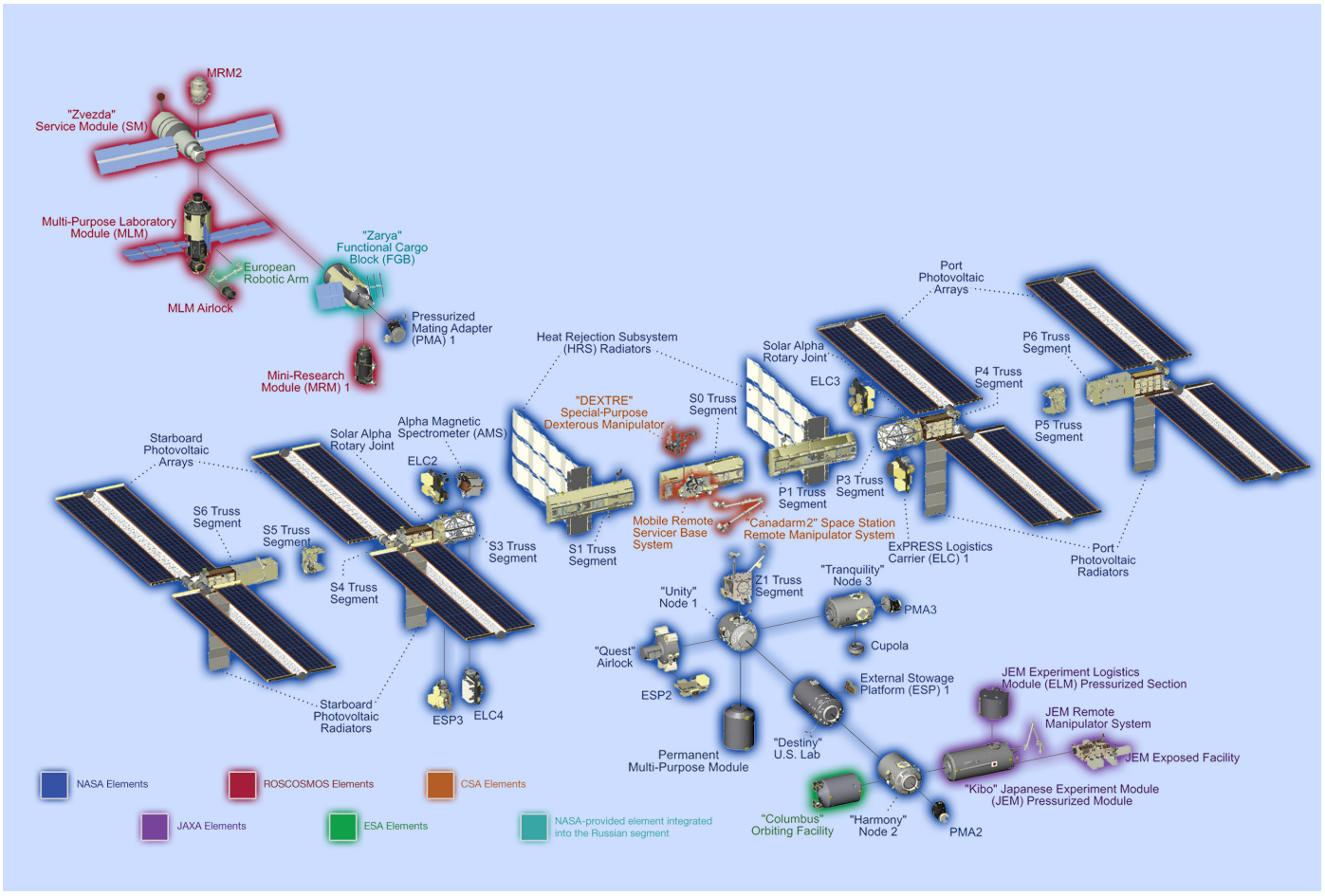
Construction, assembly and operation of the space station requires the support of facilities on Earth



The International Space Station's length and width is about the size of a football field.

managed by all of the international partner agencies and countries involved. These include construction, launch support and processing, mission operations support, research and technology development and communications facilities.

The station continues to serve as a beacon of international cooperation and human accomplishment.



A color-coded breakdown of the station and its modules.

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FS-2011-06-012-JSC